

Rotary



Club of Louisiana

Club Leaders



[Beverly Cogar](#)
President



[Brenda Miller](#)
President-Elect



[Linda Jean Beer](#)
Treasurer



[Edna Dolbeare](#)
President-Nominee



[Shawn JC Gerald](#)
Membership Chair



[Clay S Logan](#)
Rotary Foundation Chair



[Charles E. Cogar](#)
iPast President

Events

August 1st
[DG Visit](#)

August 8th
[ROTD - Alice Holtzouser](#)

August 15th
[TEACHER APPRECIATION LUNCHEON](#)

August 22nd
[ROTD - Shawn Gerald](#)

August 29th
[5TH THURSDAY SOCIAL location TBA](#)

September 5th
[ROTD - Dottie Brown](#)

September 12th
[LANE'S BACKPACK](#)

September 14th
[Sleep in Heavenly Peace - location TBA](#)

September 19th
[ROTD - Edna Dolbeare](#)

September 26th
[ROTD - Jackson Jones](#)

Birthdays

Clay S Logan
July 2nd

LOUISIANA MO ROTARY CLUB CELEBRATES 100 YEARS OF SERVICE

Thursday, June 20, 2024



How does one put into words what has been 100 years in the making, over one year in the planning, and was an entire evening of joys, tears, laughs, and great comradery?

Well, let me warn you now, itâ€™s going to take quite a few words! So, buckle up and enjoy the narrative!! Itâ€™s a once in a hundred yearâ€™s account!

Early last year we realized our charter anniversary date was approaching. The Rotary Club of Louisiana was organized January 17, 1924, being sponsored by the Mexico Club, and was admitted February 1, 1924, as Charter #1618 into Rotary International.

We started planning and have endeavored to make it a year-long celebration of the works and memories of this century of Rotarians. Many of those early service programs continue to thrive and grow, including work with the school system, the public library, and the city parks.

Pictures, scrapbooks, and documents were dug out of the archives & made ready to share. Mail lists were constructed of as many former members as possible, with invitations going out in April. The big party was set for Thursday, June 20, 2024, at the Keely Center, right here in Louisiana, MO. With almost 100 positive responses, we knew this was going to be a "really big show!"

We can't begin to thank enough the many team members who made this celebration such a success. Steering the ship was our Club President **Charlie Cogar**, along with our Club President-Elect **Beverly Cogar**. This husband-wife team has worked overtime on the planning and performance of the festivities. Long time Club Secretary-Treasurer **Linda Beer** has provided a wealth of historical background and has been an integral part of preserving and compiling the foundation stories and keeping us on a workable timeline to successfully pull off a celebration of this distinction. And, of course, **Edna Dolbeare** on the techie side for programs, badges, FaceBook, etc. Her "I can do that" attitude to the team's needs and suggestions made it all come together with class!

Many thanks to **JENNY REED**, who took over 300 photographs during the celebration. (Just a side note, Jenny just graduated from Louisiana High School, served on the yearbook staff, and received one of the seven Rotary Scholarships awarded in 2024.) The great food, which was an homage to the original menu set for the 1924 installation program, was provided by our weekly meeting caterer **KAREN LEVERENZ** and her Karen's Catering crew! With it being a 90+ degree day, we all definitely appreciated air-conditioned comfort of the classy and spacious **KEELY CENTER**. Vicky & Kevin, owners, were helpful in providing many of the things we need for an event this size, and they did it quickly & cheerfully. Charlie & Barb Deacon of **LOUISIANA FLOWERS & GIFTS** made us the blue & gold balloon arch and teamed with **KAREN STOECKLEY** to provide beautiful floral centerpieces. Club member **BEOMSEON HONG** volunteered his expertise and the much-appreciated sound & video equipment needed.

Our keynote speaker for the evening was **Rotary Past District Governor Matt Eichor**, member of the Kirksville MO Rotary Club. He served that post from 1998-99 and was present as guest speaker for our 75th anniversary celebration that year. It was good to share the evening with someone with close, long-term ties to our club.



Of the 32 active current club members we had 25 present: Secretary-Treasurer Linda Beer & husband Virgil, President Charlie Cogar, President-elect Beverly Cogar, President Nominee Brenda Miller & guest Delci Jacyna, Edna & Greg Dolbeare, Betty Dolbeare, Eric & Tommie Coarino, Shawn Gerald, Pat Glass, Sally Haddock,

Kayla M. Caldwell
July 3rd

Ashley Jenkins
July 14th

Mark B. Haddock
July 15th

Shawn JC Gerald
July 22nd

Edna Dolbeare
August 16th

Club Meeting

Louisiana
Meets at First Baptist
Church Events Center
608 South Carolina St
Louisiana, MO 63353
Time: Thursday at
12:00 PM

Betty Dolbeare, Eric & Tessa Gehring, Shawn Geraus, Pat Grimm, Sally Haddock,
Alice Holtzouser, Beomseon Hong & wife Hyerim, Diana Huckstep & husband Bill, Ashley Jenkins, Jackson Jones
IV & wife Becky, Ben Logan & guest Liz Matteson, Clay Logan & wife Sally, John Lynn & wife Pam, Sherry
McCarty & husband Don, Dottie & John Murray, Karen Stoeckley, and Brittany Taylor.

Dignitaries attending from the local governing bodies included Missouri State Senator Travis Fitzwater, Byron
Nichols from US Representative Sam Graves office, Missouri State Representative Chad Perkins, Councilman Bill
Suddarth from the City of Louisiana MO & wife Donna, Pike County Commissioner Tom Wallace & wife Liz; from
area Rotary leadership included District Membership Chairman Bill Dees, PDG & Keynote Speaker Matt Eichor &
wife Linda, IPDG Julie Leverenz, DGE Jerry Nolen & wife Mary Kay, DES David Robinette & wife Mary, and
current DG Valerie Sorensen & husband Mike.

Also in attendance were Marvin & Pam Brown, Brice Chandler, Kelly Crane, Patti Crane, Helen & Walt Crew, Curt
Dennison & Deborah Hyland, Eric & Roberta Dolbeare, Nancy Evans, David & Patti Fisher, Don Giltner, Bruce
Griffith, Tim Jenkins, Dan Jones, Bart & Michelle Niedner, Stevens Plowman, Jenny Reed, Jim & Stacey Ross,
Stan Schwartz, Diane & Jeff Sencenbaugh, Jimmy Spear, Adam Thorp, Don & Mary Waltman, Doug & Dawn
Waltman, and Nellie Wamsley.

Many of those listed in the previous paragraph were past members of our club, having retired or moved out of
our area. We would be remiss if we did not highlight one of those present this evening: **Don Waltman** is a
Rotarian in Columbia MO and started his Rotary membership in our club over 52 years ago. Since then, he has
managed 52 years of perfect attendance with makeups at 183 different clubs! He was also celebrating his 89th
birthday with us this evening! What a joy to have him and his family return to Louisiana for such a celebration!

As I started this account, I mentioned that it was an evening of joys, tears, laughs, and great comradery. Work
& projects were celebrated, memories were shared and old friends re-connected. As we enjoyed the evening,
one announcement from our District Governor Valerie Sorensen seemed a fitting example to end this account
with: DG Valerie announced that she had just received documentation that the Rotary Club of Louisiana
Missouri has been named a **100% Paul Harris Fellowship Club**. This is for clubs in which all dues-paying
members are Paul Harris Fellows. This is a one-time recognition of which we are only the 13th club in the state
of Missouri to receive it! This award is truly representative of the purposes our club was founded on and
continues to support with our money, our time, and our focus. The Rotary Club of Louisiana Missouri IS what
Rotary is meant to be: Service Above Self.

*(View more pictures on our web page at www.rotarylouisianamo.org or on our FaceBook page, The Rotary
Club of Louisiana MO.)*

GROWING THE ZAMBIA MAIZE IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

Wednesday, July 3, 2024



“Tears water our growth,” said William Shakespeare. There have been many tears shed since the death of our friend and fellow Rotarian, John Stoeckley, on March 29, 2024.

His wife Karen, of course, deeply grieves his passing but has turned her sights toward growing something that will be an enduring honor and tribute to John’s life.

The Zambia Maize Improvement Project, started by Pike County, Illinois Rotarian Eric Dolbeare, was first presented at our Louisiana Missouri Rotary Club in 2019. Eric told us about working with local farmers and ag agents in the country Zambia in south-central Africa, to educate and equip subsistence-level small-scale farmers to increase crop quality and yields, to both feed and support their families.

This on-going project quickly caught the attention of John & Karen, and both enjoyed the regular updates that Eric brought to our club after each trip to Zambia. Upon John’s passing this spring, Karen chose, in lieu of flowers, to designate all monetary gifts to go to this ag project.

In addition to all the memorial offerings, Karen designated several weekends in May where 20% of all sales proceeds would be donated to this agricultural project. Rotarians assisted her on those days to help with the business.

On Wednesday, July 3rd, Karen and two of her sons (Denton & Aaron) gathered with friends at the local Gambino’s Restaurant to celebrate giving the first check to the Zambia Maize Improvement Project. Eric and his wife Roberta were present, along with Bill Durall, District 6460 Foundation Chairman.

Eric gave a brief summary of the project for those who might have been unfamiliar with it and expressed what this sizeable donation meant toward sustaining the progress that’s been made over the last five years. Support is now growing in the Rotary community as clubs are educated on the Zambia Maize Improvement Project. Eric & Karen presented at Bowling Green recently and have plans to speak to Hannibal and Quincy in the near future.

Projects like this one where Eric and his team are doing more than just giving a man a fish, they are TEACHING them to fish (or in this case to grow corn!). Rotarians are people of action and believe we share a responsibility to improve and GROW our communities, including those around the world. Our members and our foundation work to strengthen local entrepreneurs and community leaders, particularly women, in impoverished communities. This project is a perfect example of those objectives.

If you would like to learn more about the Zambia Maize Improvement Project, check out this YouTube [video](#) made by Eric. You can also contact Eric Dolbeare directly by phone at (217) 242-1168 or by email at edolbeare@adams.net

The Rotary District 6460 Foundation is administering the funds for this project. This foundation is a 501(c)(3) corporation, so all monies donated are tax-deductible. If this effort is one you would like to support, send your donation by check made payable to Rotary District 6460 Foundation. Mail it to Louisiana Rotary Club, PO Box 442, Louisiana, MO 63353. Venmo is also available: @Louisiana-Rotary. Be sure to indicate “Zambia Project” in the memo line.

Starting the New Year

Thursday, July 11, 2024



Welcome to our new club president, Beverly Cogar! We are all looking forward to a productive, fun year of serving our community together! Several of our members received their next level Paul Harris Fellowship pins! Congratulations to Shawn Gerards, Mark & Sally Haddock, Tom Ward, Karen Stoeckley, Ben Logan, and John Lynn! As stated in an earlier post, our club is 1 of only 13 clubs in Rotary District 6060 to achieve 100% participation in PHF.

If YOU are looking for a place to meet the movers & shakers in Louisiana, for a place to use your talents & skills for the betterment of your community, or just for a place to make new friends, come check us out! We meet Thursdays at noon in the First Baptist Church fellowship hall. We are ALWAYS looking to grow! Follow us on Facebook or check out our webpage at rotarylouisianamo.org



US Flag Donated to Library

Wednesday, July 17, 2024



The Rotary Club of Louisiana MO donated an American Flag to the Louisiana Public Library. Pictured are Library Director Holly Mabry, Librarian Kathryn Kelly, Old Glory, and IPP Charlie Cogar.

Serving with Our Food Pantry

Thursday, July 18, 2024



ROTD Pat Glenn discusses LANES Backpacks, the Food Pantry and food insecurities in Pike County.

Judevine Serves our Community

Thursday, July 25, 2024

Rotarian of the Day Brenda Miller introduced us to Sandra Feldewerth, coordinator & behavior analyst for the Judevine Center for Autism, 201 Brown Lane, here in Louisiana, MO. This 501(c)(3) provides services for individuals with autism spectrum disorder and other intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD) across their lifespan.

Judevine offers assessment, support, therapy, networking, and a multitude of other programs for individuals and their families. To learn more, check out their website at [Judevine.org](https://www.judevine.org)

